

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



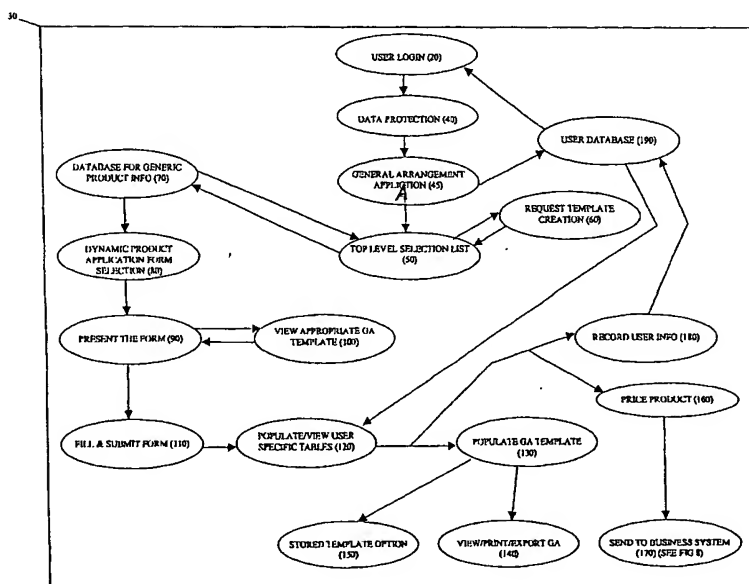
(43) International Publication Date
25 September 2003 (25.09.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2003/079185 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification?: G06F 17/50, 17/60
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB2003/001162
- (22) International Filing Date: 17 March 2003 (17.03.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 0206338.6 18 March 2002 (18.03.2002) GB
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
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- Published:
— with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 13 May 2004
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PRODUCT SELECTION, COMMERCIAL AND GENERAL ARRANGEMENT INTEGRATED APPLICATION



(57) Abstract: A method and system for generating illustrations for devices by choosing and modifying illustration templates.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB 03/01162

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F17/50 G06F17/60

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 100 08 017 A (SARTORIUS GMBH) 30 August 2001 (2001-08-30) abstract column 10, line 8-27 figure 6 -& US 2003/144756 A1 31 July 2003 (2003-07-31) ---	1-44
X	WO 01 16812 A (HITACHI, LTD.) 8 March 2001 (2001-03-08) -& EP 1 225 522 A 24 July 2002 (2002-07-24) abstract paragraphs '0037!-'0039!', '0054! figures 1,6,24 --- -/--	1-44

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 March 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

19/03/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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